

Surah 58 Surah Mujaadalah

THE LADY WHO DEBATED

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH MUJAADALAH AND SURAH HADEED

Surahs Mujaadalah, Hashar, Mumtahina and Saff are all linked to *Surah Hadeed* because they discuss the second theme of *Surah Hadeed* i.e. encouragement for Jihaad.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

- * The ruling pertaining to 'zihaar' introduces the Surah.
- * The Munaafiqeen are rebuked.
- * Three laws pertaining to the reformation of the Munaafiqeen.
- * The Munaafiqeen are warned about the evil consequences of their deeds, which they will have to face in this world and in the Aakhirah.

سُوَّةُ الْمَجَالِيكِ تَرْتَدُّ مِنْ أَشْيَاءَ عَشْرِ أَيْتٍ قَوْلُكَ رَكُوعًا

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

A lady by the name of Khawla bint Tha'laba was married to Aws bin Saamit رضي الله عنه. When he once intended to cohabit with her, she refused in the best interests of his welfare. However, he became upset and immediately blurted out the words, "You are like the back of my mother to me." This entailed Zihar. He soon regretted his statement, but told her that she was now Haraam for him. Hearing this, Khawla exclaimed, "By Allaah! This cannot be divorce." She then went to Rasulullaah ﷺ and presented her case thus, "O Rasulullaah ﷺ! When my husband married me, I was young and rich. My husband has since consumed all my wealth and youth. Now when the members of my family have all been scattered and I am an old woman, he has carried out Zihar with me. He now regrets his act. Is there any way by which the two of us can be reunited?" Rasulullaah ﷺ replied by saying, "You are Haraam for him." She said, "O Rasulullaah ﷺ! I swear by the Being Who revealed the Qur'aan to you! My husband never used the word 'Talaq' (divorce). I have children from him and I am most beloved to him." When Rasulullaah ﷺ reiterated his earlier reply, she said, "I shall present my case in Allaah's court. I have lived with my husband for too long." Rasulullaah ﷺ said to her that as far as he understood the matter, she was Haraam for her husband and that no clear injunction had been revealed to him in this regard. During her discussion with Rasulullaah ﷺ, she added that if her small children had to be left with her husband, they would be destroyed. On the other hand, if they were left with her, they would probably die of starvation. As she was saying this, she raised her eyes to the heavens saying, "O Allaah! I plead my case before You. Reveal a command to Your Rasool ﷺ so that my difficulty is alleviated." This was the first time that a Muslim practised Zihar. This incident was the reason Allaah revealed the following verses to Rasulullaah ﷺ.

قَدْ سَمِعَ اللَّهُ قَوْلَ الَّتِي تُجَادِلُكَ فِي زَوْجِهَا وَتَشْتَكِي إِلَى اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ سَمِيعٌ بَصِيرٌ ①

1. Allaah had certainly heard the speech of the lady who debated with you (O Rasulullaah ﷺ) concerning her husband and who complained to Allaah. Allaah was listening to your discussion. Verily Allaah is All Hearing, All Seeing.

الَّذِينَ يَظْهَرُونَ مِنْكُمْ مَنْ نَسَاءَهُمْ مَا هُنَّ أُمَّهَاتُهُمْ إِلَّا الَّتِي وَلَدْنَهُمْ وَإِنَّهُمْ لَيَقُولُونَ مُنْكَرًا مِنَ الْقَوْلِ وَزُورًا وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَعَفُوفٌ غَفُورٌ ②

2. Those of you who practise Zihar with their wives, (should remember that) their wives are not their mothers (and cannot become such merely by using the words of Zihar). Their mothers are only those who have given birth to them. Indeed (by using the words of Zihar) they are merely making foolish and false statements. (However, if they repent after making such statements, then) Verily Allaah is Most Pardoning, Most Forgiving (and He is prepared to forgive them).

وَالَّذِينَ يَظْهَرُونَ مِنْ نِسَائِهِمْ ثُمَّ يَعُودُونَ لِمَا قَالُوا فَتَحَرِيرُ رَقَبَةٍ مَنْ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَتَمَاسَا ذَلِكُمْ تَوَعُّظٌ
بِهِ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ۝

3. Those who practise Zihar and then wish to retract what they say, they will have to free a (male or female, Muslim or non-Muslim) slave before the couple can (even) touch each other. (Before doing this, they cannot even do something as trivial which may lead to further intimacy). This is the advice Allaah gives you and (if a person indulges in intercourse with his wife before freeing the slave, Allaah will punish him for this transgression because) Allaah is Informed about what you do.

فَمَنْ لَمْ يَجِدْ فَصِيَامَ شَهْرَيْنِ مُتَتَابِعَيْنِ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَتَمَاسَا فَمَنْ لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ فَاطْعَامُ سِتِّينَ مِسْكِينًا ذَلِكَ
لِتُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَتِلْكَ حُدُودُ اللَّهِ وَلِلْكَافِرِينَ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ۝

4. The one who cannot do this (is unable to free a slave) should fast for two consecutive months (60 days) before the couple can (even) touch each other. The one who cannot even do this (fasting for two months) should feed sixty poor people. (Besides discouraging Zihar and securing forgiveness for the husband,) This (penalty for Zihar) is (ordered) so that you may believe (so that you strengthen your conviction) in (the guidance given to you by) Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ. These are the limits set by Allaah and the Kaafiroon (those who disregard the limits set by Allaah) shall have a painful punishment.'

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُجَادُّونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ كَبِتُوا كَمَا كَبَتِ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَقَدْ أَنْزَلْنَا آيَاتٍ بَيِّنَاتٍ وَلِلْكَافِرِينَ
عَذَابٌ مُهِينٌ ۝

5. Verily those who oppose Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ (in any matter) will be disgraced (already in this world) like those (Kuffaar) before them were disgraced. (They certainly deserve the punishment they get because their opposition is despite the fact that) We have certainly revealed clear Aayaat (that make the truth clear to them). (In addition to the disgrace of this world,) The Kaafiroon shall suffer a humiliating (disgraceful) punishment (in the Aakhirah as well).

يَوْمَ يَجْعَلُ اللَّهُ جَمِيعًا فِيْئَتِهِمْ بِمَا عَمَلُوا أَحْصَاهُ اللَّهُ وَنَسُوهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ ۝

6. (This punishment will be) On the Day (of Qiyaamah when) Allaah shall raise them all (from their graves) and inform (remind) them of the actions they carried out. Allaah has kept record (of all their actions) while they have forgotten. Allaah is Witness over everything (because nothing escapes His attention).

الَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ أَلَا هُوَ الَّذِي يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ ۝

سَادُسُهُمْ وَلَا أَدْنَىٰ مِنْ ذَلِكَ وَلَا أَكْثَرُ إِلَّا هُوَ مَعَهُمْ إِنَّمَا كَانُوا تُحَدَّثُونَ بِمَا عَمِلُوا يَوْمَ الْقِيَمَةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ۖ

7. Do you not see that Allaah knows whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on earth? Whenever there is a secret meeting of three, He is the fourth. When there are five, He is the sixth and whenever there are less or more, He is with them wherever they may be. (He has complete knowledge of everything they say and do.) Then on the Day of Qiyaamah Allaah will inform (remind) them of the actions they carried out (and punish them accordingly). Verily Allaah has knowledge of everything.

أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِينَ نُهُوا عَنِ النَّجْوَىٰ ثُمَّ يَعُودُونَ لِمَا نُهُوا عَنْهُ وَيَتَنَجَّوْنَ بِالْأَثَمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ وَمَعْصِيَتِ الرَّسُولِ وَإِذَا جَاءُوكَ حَيَّوْكَ بِمَا لَمْ يُحَيِّكَ بِهِ اللَّهُ وَيَقُولُونَ فِيْ أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَوْلَا يُعَذِّبُنَا اللَّهُ بِمَا نَقُولُ حَسْبُكُمْ جَهَنَّمُ يَصَلُّونَهَا فَيَنْفُسُ الْمَصِيرُ ۝

8. (Referring to the Jews and Munaafiqeen who used to whisper to each other when a Muslim passed by them to hurt his feelings, Allaah says,) Can you not see those (Munaafiqeen) who were prevented (by Rasulullaah ﷺ) from holding secret meetings (by whispering to each other) but who then returned to what they had been prevented from? They secretly meet to conspire (plot) sin, transgression and to disobey the Rasool ﷺ. When they come to you (O Rasulullaah ﷺ), they greet you with words that Allaah does not greet you with (instead of greeting Rasulullaah ﷺ with the words "As Salaamu Alaykum" ["Peace be on you"], the Jews used to say, "As Saamu Alaykum" ["May death come to you"]) and they say to themselves, "(If what we do is wrong,) Why does Allaah not punish us (immediately) for what we say?" (They fail to realise that Allaah is merely giving them time to become more deserving of the ultimate punishment of Jahannam.) Sufficient for them is Jahannam which they shall enter (in the Aakhirah). It (Jahannam) is the worst of places to return to.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا تَنَاجَيْتُمْ فَلَا تَنَاجُوا بِالْأَثَمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ وَمَعْصِيَتِ الرَّسُولِ وَتَنَاجُوا بِالْبِرِّ وَالْتَقْوَىٰ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي إِلَيْهِ تُحْشَرُونَ ۝

9. O you who have Imaan! When you convene secret meetings, then do not do it to conspire sin, transgression and (to) disobey the Rasool ﷺ. Rather hold such meetings for purposes of virtue and Taqwa (to discuss doing things that please Allaah and Rasulullaah ﷺ). Fear Allaah to Whom you shall all be gathered.

إِنَّمَا النَّجْوَىٰ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ لِيَحْزَنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَلَيْسَ بِضَارِّهِمْ شَيْئًا إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ۝

10. Secret meetings (to discuss evil) are really (acts) from Shaytaan (who misleads people) to

cause grief to the Mu'mineen. However, these (secret meetings) can do nothing to harm them except with Allaah's permission. (Therefore,) Only in Allaah should the Mu'mineen trust. (With Allaah protecting a person, no one can harm him at all.)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا قِيلَ لَكُمْ تَفَسَّحُوا فِي الْمَجَالِسِ فَافْسَحُوا يَفْسَحِ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ وَإِذَا قِيلَ انشُرُوا فَانْشُرُوا
يَرْفَعِ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ ⑪

11. O you who have Imaan! When it is said to you, “Make space (for others)” in gatherings, then make space, Allaah shall make way (room) for you (in Jannah). And when it is said to you, “Stand up (for salaah, for Jihaad or to leave the gathering),” then stand up (as commanded), Allaah shall elevate (raise up) by many ranks the Mu'mineen (the believers) among you and those given knowledge (of Deen). Allaah is Informed of what you do.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا نَاجَيْتُمُ الرَّسُولَ فَقَدِّمُوا بَيْنَ يَدَيْ نَجْوَاكُمْ صَدَقَةٌ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ وَطَهْرٌ فَإِنْ
لَمْ تَجِدُوا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ ⑫

12. (To prevent people from unnecessary private discussions with Rasoolullah ﷺ, which were taking up too much of his time, Allaah instructed,) O you who have Imaan! When you (wish to) speak privately (in confidence) with the Rasool ﷺ, then offer charity (voluntary) before speaking. This is best for you and purer. (However,) If you do not find the means (to spend in charity and the need for such a discussion is vital) then (you may discuss without giving charity and Allaah will forgive you because) Allaah is certainly Most Forgiving, Most Merciful.

عَاشَفَقْتُمْ أَنْ تُقَدِّمُوا بَيْنَ يَدَيْ نَجْوَاكُمْ صَدَقَاتٍ فَإِذْ لَمْ تَفْعَلُوا وَتَابَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكُمْ فَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا
الزَّكَاةَ وَاطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَاللَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ⑬

13. (Referring to the reluctance of some Muslims to discuss privately with Rasoolullah ﷺ because they had to offer charity, Allaah says,) Are you reluctant (afraid) to offer charity before your private discussions (with Rasoolullah ﷺ)? (Allaah then cancelled the command to give charity before private discussions with Rasoolullah ﷺ and said,) If you do not do it and Allaah pardons you (by completely revoking the command), then (do not be reluctant to fulfil your other obligations, so continue to) establish salaah, pay zakaah and obey Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ. (Do not forget that) Allaah is Informed of what you do.

أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِينَ تَوَلَّوْا قَوْمًا غَضِبَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مَاهُمْ مِنْكُمْ وَلَا مِنْهُمْ وَيَحْلِفُونَ عَلَى الْكَذِبِ وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ ⑭

14. Have you not seen those (the Munaafiqeen) who befriend a nation (the Jews) with whom Allaah is angry? They (the Munaafiqeen) are neither from among you (Muslims although they claim to be) nor from among them (the Jews, even though they harbour the same beliefs) and they knowingly take false oaths (to convince people that they are sincere to them).

أَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ عَذَابًا شَدِيدًا إِنَّهُمْ سَاءَ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٥﴾

15. Allaah has prepared a severe punishment for them (in *Jahannam*). Evil indeed is that which they do.

اتَّخَذُوا أَيْمَانَهُمْ جُنَّةً فَصَدُّوا عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُهِينٌ ﴿١٦﴾

16. They take their oaths (that they are Muslims) as shields (to protect themselves from being exposed as hypocrites) and prevent (others) from Allaah's path. Theirs shall be a humiliating (disgraceful) punishment.

لَنْ تَغْنِي عَنْهُمْ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

17. Neither their wealth (riches) nor their children can offer them any help against (the punishment of) Allaah. They are the inmates (dwellers) of the Fire (of *Jahannam*) where they shall live forever.

يَوْمَ يَبْعَثُهُمُ اللَّهُ جَمِيعًا فَيَحْلِفُونَ لَهُ كَمَا يَحْلِفُونَ لَكُمْ وَيَحْسَبُونَ أَنَّهُمْ عَلَىٰ شَيْءٍ إِلَّا أَنَّهُمْ هُمُ الْكَاذِبُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

18. On the Day (of *Qiyamah*) when Allaah shall raise them all (from their graves), they will take oaths before Him (that they are sincere Muslims) just as they take oaths before you (Muslims) thinking that they are in good stead (that they will get away with it and be saved from punishment). Behold! They are certainly liars (and will never be able to fool Allaah).

اسْتَخَوَدَ عَلَيْهِمُ الشَّيْطَانُ فَأَنسَاهُمْ ذِكْرَ اللَّهِ أُولَٰئِكَ حِزْبُ الشَّيْطَانِ إِلَّا رَجَبُ الشَّيْطَانِ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

19. Shaytaan has overpowered (possessed) them (thereby making them do what he wants) and made them forget to remember Allaah (because of which they disobey Allaah's commands). These are the group of Shaytaan. Behold! The group of Shaytaan is at a loss (the real losers in both worlds).

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحَادُّونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ أُولَٰئِكَ فِي الْأَذَلِّينَ ﴿٢٠﴾

20. Verily those who oppose Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ are the most disgraced (hold no value).

كَتَبَ اللَّهُ لَأَغْلِبَنَّ أَنَا وَرُسُلِي إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ ﴿٢١﴾

21. Allaah has ordained, "Verily My Rusul and I shall certainly be victorious (over Our enemies in the end)." Indeed, Allaah is Powerful, Mighty.

لَا تَجِدُ قَوْمًا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ يُوَادُّونَ مَنْ حَادَّ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَوْ كَانُوا آبَاءَهُمْ أَوْ أَبْنَاءَهُمْ
 أَوْ إِخْوَانَهُمْ أَوْ عَشِيرَتَهُمْ أُولَٰئِكَ كَتَبَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمُ الْإِيمَانَ وَأَتَدَّبَهُمْ رُوحٌ مِّنْهُ وَيَدْخُلُهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِنْ
 تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ أُولَٰئِكَ حِزْبُ اللَّهِ أَلَا إِنَّ حِزْبَ اللَّهِ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ٢٢

22. You will not find people who believe in Allaah and the Last Day befriending those who oppose Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ even though they (those who oppose Allaah and Rasulullaah ﷺ) are their fathers, their sons, their brothers or their families. These (Mu'mineen who do not associate with their relatives who oppose Allaah and Rasulullaah ﷺ) are the people in whose hearts Allaah has written (strengthened) Imaan and whom Allaah assists with His mercy (with spirtual life). Allaah shall enter them into Jannaat beneath which rivers flow where they shall live forever. Allaah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. They are the group of Allaah. Behold! The group of Allaah shall be the only successful ones. (This verse refers specifically to the Sahabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ and thereafter to all other Mu'mineen.)